

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-15, and 17-21 are pending in the application and stand rejected. Claims 6 and 16 were previously cancelled. The drawings were objected to by the Office Action for allegedly not showing every feature of the claims. Claims 1-3 and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,609,390 to Feldman ("the Feldman patent"). Claims 9 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Feldman in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,161,005 to Pinzon ("the Pinzon patent"). Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-15, 17-19, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,847,542 to Clark ("the Clark patent"). Claims 9 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Clark in view of Pinzon. The Applicants traverse these objections and rejections for the reasons stated below.

The drawings were objected to by the Office Action because they allegedly do not show all the claimed features. Specifically, the Office Action stated that the term "RF ID detector" of claims 8 and 19 must be shown in the drawings. In response, the Applicants have amended claims 8 and 19 to recite "detector." The term "detector" is shown in FIG. 5 as element 516.

The Office Action also requested that the Applicants update the status of co-pending applications. The Applicants have amended the Specification to comply with this request.

As amended, the Applicants' claims recite a system whereby a control signal is generated based upon receipt and authentication of a user authorization code (e.g., a PIN number) at an entry request device. Other control signals are generated when, for example, a close button is actuated or based upon barrier position. Certain actions (e.g., closing a door) cannot be performed unless *both* control signals have been generated.

More specifically, amended claim 1 recites a system including a close button, entry request device and a controller. The close button produces a coded signal when actuated by a user. The entry request device accepts a user authorization code from a user. See Specification, page 11, lines 5-10, and page 5, lines 22-27.

The controller is operably coupled to the entry request device and the close button and has an output. The controller receives the user authorization code and an indication of a position of the barrier and attempts to authenticate the authorization code. The controller then determines whether a first control signal should be generated at the output based at least in part upon whether the user

authorization code has been successfully authenticated and based upon the indication of the position of the barrier. In addition, the controller also receives the coded signal indicating an actuation of the close button and selectively generates a second control signal at the output based at least in part upon the indication of the position of the barrier.

In contrast, none of the cited references teach the generation of a control signal based upon code authentication and a second control signal upon actuation of the close button and based at least in part upon barrier position.

More specifically, the Feldman reference teaches the use of a manual pushbutton 11 and a radio receiver 13. The manual pushbutton 11 is pressed to open the door. Feldman, col. 3, lines 3-17. The radio receiver 13 is used in addition to the manual pushbutton 11 to open and close the door. See Feldman col. 3, lines 19-21. Feldman is silent as to receiving authorization codes from a user and silent about using the successful authentication of any code to generate any control signal.

The Pinzon reference teaches the use of various devices (phone handset 8, wired telephone 9, computer 10) to issue a locking/unlocking command to the door. See Pinzon, col. 5, lines 9-15. Pinzon does describe using a password or code to execute a locking/unlocking function. Pinzon, col. 7, lines 4-8. However, Pinzon does not teach or suggest the generation of separate control signals based upon (1) code authentication and (2) actuation of a close button and barrier position.

The Clark reference teaches a system whereby the depression of a button 113 or 123 by a user generates a coded signal. See Clark, col. 3, lines 25-30. However, Clark is silent as to having a user enter authorization codes or requiring a successful authentication of a code to generate a control signal.

Consequently, none of Feldman, Pinzon, or Clark teach the generation of control signals based upon successful code authentication and close button actuation/barrier position as recited in claim 1. Since elements of claim 1 are not taught or suggested by the cited references, it is believed that claim 1 is allowable over any of these references alone or in combination.

Amended claim 11 has recitations similar to claim 1 and it is believed that this claim is allowable for the same reasons as given above with respect to claim 1. The remaining claims 2-5, 7-10, 12-15, and 17-21 depend directly or indirectly upon claims 1 and 11. Since claims 1 and 11 are allowable, it is believed the remaining claims are also allowable.

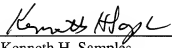
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17 during its entire pendency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1135. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1135.

Respectfully requested,

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